



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
087875.424	07/28/97	HENRICSON	30-440

NIXON & VANDERHYE
1100 NORTH GLEBE ROAD
8TH FLOOR
ARLINGTON VA 22201

IM31/0929

EXAMINER
ALVO, M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1731	

DATE MAILED: 09/29/98

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

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Office Action Summary

Application No.
08/875,424

Applicant(s)
HENRICSON et al

Examiner
Steve Alvo

Group Art Unit
1731



- ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 16-35 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 16-35 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☒ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
- ☐ received.
- ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.
- ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 3
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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Claims ~~1~~-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over WO

94/20674 in view of EP 0 622 491.

WO 94/20674 teaches bleaching the pulp in an cooking -O-Q-P-Pa bleaching sequence, wherein the Q-stage can be preceded by an A-washing stage, thus forming an O-AQ-P-Pa and O-AQ-P-P bleaching sequences, such doesn't differ from the bleach sequence of the instant process (WO 94/20674, page 5, lines 4-5; and page 11, lines 6-17 and Examples 1-4). It would have been especially obvious to have the AQ stage in separate and/or the same stage as such is taught by EP 0 622 491 (page 3, lines 24-27). See instant claim 34 for Cooking-O-AQ-P sequence. The use of two peroxide stages would have been obvious as WO 94/20674 teaches that additional bleach stages could be followed with one of the following stages (E, P, Eo, Ep, Eop, page 12, lines 13-21) and could be further supplemented by using a P, D and/or H stage during the sequence (claims 19 and 33). See Examples 5 and 6 for OQPPaEp, OQP and OQPP bleach sequences. See WO 94/20674, page 5, for conditions in the acid and/or chelating stages; see pages 6 and 7 for conditions in the P-stage; see pages 10 and 11 for using a 4th stage with peroxyacid (A). It would have been obvious to the artisan to control the conditions in each stage and the size of the reactor depending upon the desired amount of bleaching in each stage and the total amount of

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delignification and bleaching desired. The addition of magnesium and calcium would have been obvious from the teachings of EP 0 622 491.

Claim 35 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 94/20674 in view of EP 0 622 491 as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of JP 57-21591 and WALSH.

JP 57-21591 teaches a Q-Pa-P bleaching sequence. It would have been obvious that the Pa-stage of WO 94/20674 could precede the P-stage of WO 94/20674 as taught by JP 57-21591. It would have been obvious that the chelating agent of WO 94/20674 could be both prior to and in the Pa-stage as such is taught by WALSH (column 5, lines 4-7).

When filing an **“Official” FAX** in Art Unit 1731, please indicate in the Header (upper right) **“Official”** for papers that are to be entered into the file. The **“Official” FAX** phone number for this Art Unit is **(703) 305-7718** for all papers except amendments after final, for amendments after final the FAX number is 703-305-3599. When filing an **“Unofficial” FAX** in Group 1730, please indicate in the Header (upper right) **“Unofficial”** for Draft Documents and other Communications with the PTO that are not for entry into the file of the application. This will expedite processing of your papers. The **“Unofficial” FAX** phone number for this Art Unit (1731) is **(703) 305-7115**.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the **primary examiner** should be directed to **Steve Alvo** whose telephone number is **(703) 308-2048**. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from **6:30 AM - 3:00 PM (EST)**.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Stanley Silverman, can be reached on 703-308-3837.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the **Group receptionist** whose telephone number is **(703) 308-0661**.

MSA
September 23, 1998

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Alvo', is written over the printed name.

STEVE ALVO
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 1731